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LEUZ

REF BK171533 RESPONSE: COVERAGE OF RAMOS TELEVISION INTERVIEW

Philippines: Ramos Remarks on Military Stance on Rebellion

bk171557

Manila AITV RFO in English to Paris 1144 GMT 17 Sep 87 (tentative)

[Text] [Ramos, in progress] November 22,23 in which again there were very evident political objectives in addition to the seaport (?military) exercise. This needs some further investigations. Now, here, the political leadership of this country, the administration should also mobilize this machinery to look into this matter. After all, there is a departure from justice and some of these matters are really beyond the authority of the armed forces to handle.

[Unidentified reporter] for example, or completely, what do you have in mind that the civilian government can do? [Ramos] Well, if you remember the Manila [words indistinct] was investigated by a civilian panel [words

indistinct] consisting of undersecretaries, and they came out with the recommendations that some people should be charged for rebellion. [passage indistinct] The military, armed forces proceed also with our own formal investigations and charges. of the proposals or the other legal action against the higher leadership of that attempt [words indistinct]. But I think we should understand that the pardon must come after there is a conviction, and people are talking about amnesty. Well, amnesty is an act of the president for a group, which must be confirmed by Congress under our new constitution. So, our people should understand that, because they keep talking about this amnesty as if it is something that the military commanders can give. This is beyond our authority. But, I would like you to know that [passage indistinct] strictly according to the law, and that is arrest, detain, investigate, and on the basis of the investigation, trying those that can be charged or [words indistinct] under our articles of war and under our Ewords indistinct]. (Endall) disk5 171144 17/1621z sep 81 #1550

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